



# *News Release*

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## **STATE BOARD ADOPTS RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SCHOOL LIBRARIES**

October 29, 2014

LANSING – The State Board of Education adopted a Resolution this month supporting the role played by school libraries in the education of Michigan's students.

The resolution was recognized by the American Library Association as well as by the Michigan Library Association, and the Michigan Association for Media in Education.

### **State Board of Education Statement on School Libraries**

The Michigan State Board of Education recognizes that school library media centers provide Michigan's students and staff equitable access to print and digital resources critical to supporting 21st century teaching and learning.

The Board further recognizes that certified library media specialists serve a critical role in increasing student achievement by supporting, collaborating, and co-teaching with classroom teachers in reading development, in integrating information and technology literacy skills into the content curriculum, and in meeting the expectations for student research set forth in the Common Core State Standards.

The Library of Michigan, an office of the Michigan Department of Education, has developed the "SL21 Measurement Benchmarks for Michigan School Libraries for 21st Century Schools" and calls for school administrators and school librarians to use the SL21 measures to assess the quality of school library programs in individual buildings.

The Board supports these efforts and supports a call for all elementary and secondary students to have ready access to a library in their school with appropriate resources, programming and certified staff.

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